



# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

## DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH, MENTAL RETARDATION AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES

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COMMISSIONER

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**TO:** Interested Persons and Organizations

**FROM:** Wendy V. Brown, Agency Regulatory Coordinator

**SUBJECT:** Request for Public Comment on Current Regulations:  
12 VAC 35-190-10 et seq. Regulations Establishing Procedures for Voluntarily Admitting Persons who are Mentally Retarded to State Mental Retardation Facilities  
12 VAC 35-200-10 et seq. Regulations for Respite and Emergency Care Admissions to Mental Retardation Facilities

**DATE:** May 17, 2006

Pursuant to Executive Order Number 21 (2002), the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services and the State Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services Board will review the two sets of regulations that are referenced above to determine whether they should be terminated, amended, or retained in their current form. The review will be guided by the principles listed in Executive Order Number 21.

The Department seeks public comment on any issue relevant to this review including whether (i) the regulation is effective in achieving its goals; (ii) the regulation is essential to protect the health, safety or welfare of citizens (iii) there are less burdensome and intrusive alternatives to the regulation; and (iv) the regulation is clearly written and easily understandable.

Written comments may be submitted until June 23, 2006, in care of Wendy Brown, Agency Regulatory Coordinator, Office of Planning and Development, 1220 Bank Street, P.O. Box 1797, Richmond, Virginia 23218-1797 by email to [wendy.brown@co.dmhmrzas.virginia.gov](mailto:wendy.brown@co.dmhmrzas.virginia.gov) or by facsimile to (804) 371-0092. Please include your full name and mailing address in any correspondence. Copies of the regulations may be obtained on the Department's website at [www.dmhmrzas.virginia.gov](http://www.dmhmrzas.virginia.gov) or by contacting Wendy Brown.

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